

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTO 01210 182124Z

73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 NIC-01 SCCT-01 /030 W

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P R 182105Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3132

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, DR

SUBJECT: PROMINENT JOURNALIST MURDERED

1. PROMINENT 29 YEAR OLD JOURNALIST ORLANDO MARTINEZ WAS SHOT AND KILLED BY UNKNOWN ASSAILANTS EVENING OF MARCH 17.

2. ALTHOUGH MARTINEZ WAS KNOWN AS A MARXIST AND WAS IN FACT AN UNDERCOVER MEMBER OF PARTIDO COMUNISTA DOMINICANO, HE WAS WIDELY RESPECTED IN JOURNALISTIC AND POLITICAL CIRCLES FOR INTELLIGENCE, INTEGRITY AND WRITING ABILITY. PUBLIC REACTION TO ASSASSINATION HAS BEEN ONE OF SHOCK AND HORROR. ALL DAILIES GAVE IT HEADLINE COVERAGE TODAY AND EDITORIALY DEMANDED THAT IT BE THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATED AND MURDER BE SOLVED. PAPERS NOTED PARALLEL BETWEEN THIS ASSASSINATION AND THAT OF ULTIMA HORA EDITOR GREGORIO GARCIA CASTRO IN MARCH 1973 AND SPECULATED THAT KILLING COULD REPRESENT THREAT TO FREEDOM OF PRESS.

3. COMMENT. MARTINEZ' DAILY COLUMN IN EL NACIONAL AND LINE AS EDITOR OF WEEKLY AHORA ANGERED MANY INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE. AMONG HIS CONSPICUOUS TARGETS WERE LARGE LANDOWNERS,

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MILITARY OFFICERS, EX-PRESIDENT JUAN BOSCH AND PRESIDENT

BALAGUER. HE HAD RECENTLY RECEIVED NUMBER OF TELEPHONED
THREATS FROM UNIDENTIFIED CALLERS. HIS MURDER COULD BECOME
CAUSE CELEBRE OF LEFTIST OPPOSITION. RUMORS ARE ALREADY
CIRCULATING THAT GODR, COACHED BY CIA, WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR
MARTINEZ' DEATH.
HURWITCH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ASSASSINATION, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANTO01210
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750094-0669
From: SANTO DOMINGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750340/aaaabjtl.tel
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROMINENT JOURNALIST MURDERED
TAGS: PINT, PINS, DR, (MARTINEZ, ORLANDO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006